Atty. Dkt. No. AMAT/6346.02/CMP/ECP/RKK



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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n re Application of:

Gandikota, et al.

Serial No.: 10/085,338

Confirmation No.: 8528

Filed:

February 27, 2002

For:

Method and Apparatus for Reducing Organic Depletion During Non-Processing Time

Periods

Mail Stop AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Group Art Unit: 1742

Examiner: William T. Leader

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on 6/23, 2004 with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

6/23/04

Signature

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 24, 2004

In response to the Office Action dated March 24, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on June 24, 2004, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicant believes that no additional fees are due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AMAT/6346.02/KMT, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper. Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 7 of this paper. Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.